

EUGENICS

is no claim to Professor Holmes, ent tendencies, discusses the and natural se- hat "if there ry factors at on, their exist- l, and beyond s only—dark- of the history r, particularly f degeneration lent that the degeneration) ollow;" hence nce." We are Holmes, "that ors were more ivilized man," a of the weak erility of the ertain measure he tendency of nate the best parent lack of tion and race ss and racial l. "Economic e panacea for , but it would ich the opera- ld probably be ur present so- y in the distri- tend to bring he birthrate of dd society uculation between on of superior ich our present ectually sub- ice more be on ance."

as the value of qualities under d Mind," set- which, accord-

ing to present knowledge, enables us to explain or anticipate the inheritance of superior mental ability. He again sets forth the ease of deterioration: "As fast as the hereditary factors for superior mentality combine and manifest themselves in individuals of distinction, they tend to disappear," and deplors the fact that "intelligence has discovered the means of outwitting nature by sacrificing posterity to present welfare."

The selective value of infant mortality is racially negative in cases of the elimination "of somatic or non hereditary variation, . . . of infantile weakness which may not be correlated with weakness in later life," but racially positive in the elimination "of infant weakness which is correlated with adult weakness or defect," and particularly "of infants not in themselves weak, but which perish on account of the low mentality of their parents."

Returning to the question, "has civilization diminished the rigor of natural selection," he concludes that "with the development of civilization and the diversification of industry, people become exposed to conditions of life which are associated with marked differences in their rates of mortality, and there are reasons to believe that these differences are correlated to a considerable degree with levels of intelligence."

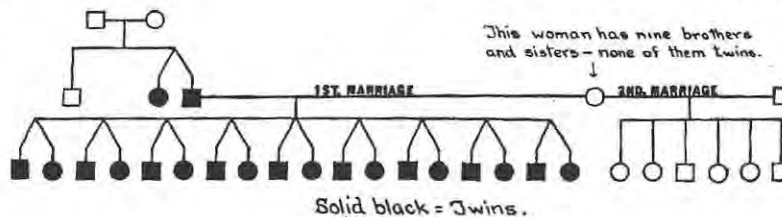
Sexual selection, on the other hand, has greatly deteriorated in its racial value with the progress of civilization. Its restoration, as an active eugenic agency, is of great importance, but its "realization must go along with the elevation of humanity to a higher cultural and ethical plane." Other topics discussed are Early marriages, birth control, misconceptions of eugenics, immigration, racial mixture and the biological fortunes of the negro.

R. G. H.

S. J. Holmes, 1923. *Studies in Evolution and Eugenics*. N. Y. Harcourt, Brace & Co. 261 pp.

A FATHER OF TWINS

Dr. A. Peiper has recently published in the *Klinische Wochenschrift* a remarkable pedigree chart which strongly supports the conclusion that the tendency to twinning may reside in the male sex. A woman who had nine brothers and sisters and no known twins in her close relatives married first a man who was one of twins. From this marriage there resulted 18 children born in 9 labors; all were twins. By a second marriage with a man who did not belong to a twinning strain she had six single pregnancies. These remarkable relations are illustrated in the accompanying figure.



ANTHROPOMETRY AND FITNESS

The Association of Life Insurance Medical Directors have a committee on Dreyer measurements (Dr. Brandreth Symonds, 32 Nassau Street, N. Y., chairman) organized to test their value for Life Insurance Underwriters. Dublin in a preliminary report (1923) concludes "No dependence can be placed upon Dreyer's tables in predicting the 'unfit or impaired lives in a general experience.'" In a study of "spine length" (vertebra prominens to tip of coccyx) it appears that, on the average, overweights have relatively longer spines than the average of all (37.4:36.8 per cent.) and the shorter have relatively longer spines than the taller overweights (37.7:37.1 per cent. of stature). The interpretation of all of these results can first be made when racial composition of the populations measured is known.

WHITE AMERICA

The worst thing that ever happened to the area of the present United States was the bringing of large numbers of the Negroes, nearly the lowest of races, to our shores. America called for cheap labor that its whites might enjoy the luxury of the parasite which is fed by its host without effort of its own. Now we realize that this host bids fair to destroy its parasite. This is the theme of a stirring volume just issued by a young Southerner who has prepared himself by years of study and travel through Africa, the Americas and Australasia to save his native country from going the way

that Egypt, India and Haiti have passed along, and which Latin America and South Africa are apparently started upon—namely, the way of mixture of the white race with the negro, with the eventual leadership of the mulatto and a gradual decay of the arts and sciences. The history of the death of nations through miscegenation is vividly told, our own danger clearly stated, and the "only way out" made clear—the expatriation of negroes of breeding age to Africa. It is to be imagined that many of the negroes and their parasites will object strenuously. But America is still worth saving for the white race and it can be done. If Mr. E. S. Cox can bring it about he will be a greater savior of his country than George Washington. We wish him, his book and his "White America Society" godspeed.

Ernest S. Cox. *White America*. White America Society, Richmond, Va. 389 pp. \$2.00.